

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to cancel Claims 1 - 13 and add new Claims 14 - 26 as follows, this listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1 - 13 (Cancelled)

14. (New) A reversing linear drive comprising at least one field coil which is to be acted upon by a variable current, comprising a magnetic armature which is to be set in linear oscillating motion in an axial direction with an armature stroke by the magnetic field of the field coil and comprising means for detecting the armature position, wherein the means provided at least to detect the armature position comprise a stripe pattern element extending at least over the entire axial armature stroke comprising an alternating arrangement of at least one of transparent and opaque stripes and light-reflecting and non-light-reflecting stripes and at least one light barrier comprising light-emitting and light-receiving parts whose light beams are aligned at least approximately perpendicularly relative to the axial direction of the stripe pattern element.

15. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein the stripe pattern element is rigidly connected to the armature.

16. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein the light barrier is embodied as a double light barrier.

17. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the transparent and opaque stripes and the light-reflecting and non-light-reflecting stripes each have the same axial extension.

18. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein at least one of the transparent stripes and the opaque stripes and the light-reflecting and non-light-reflecting stripes have non-uniform axial extensions.

19. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein the axial extension of at least one of the transparent and opaque stripes and the light-reflecting and non-light-reflecting stripes is less than 0.25 mm in each case.

20. (New) The drive according to claim 14, further comprising a comb-like formation of the stripe pattern element.

21. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein the stripe pattern element additionally has at least one trigger stripe.

22. (New) The drive according to claim 21, wherein the trigger stripe is arranged in the area near the maximum speed of the oscillating armature part.

23. (New) The drive according to claim 21, wherein the trigger stripe is also to be detected by the light barrier.

24. (New) The drive according to claim 21, wherein a separate light barrier is associated with the trigger stripe.

25. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein means for detecting at least one of the speed of the armature and the direction of motion of the armature are additionally provided.

26. (New) The drive according to claim 14, wherein the armature is rigidly connected to a pump plunger of a compressor.